

CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0013
Caleb Owings House
2851 Hernwood Road
Woodstock, Baltimore County
1800 ca.
Private

The Caleb Owings House dates to an early 19th century period of settlement in the vicinity of the Sixth District village of Granite. The village of Granite was established in the early 19th century around a land, by 1850 had developed significantly at the intersection of Granite Road and Old Court Road. The community grew out of the quarrying interests of the Worthington family, which owned a significant amount of land in the surrounding area. By 1877, Granite Post Office was accessible by a branch that extended northward from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad line as it passed near the village. By the late 19th century the thriving community had reached a population of 500 inhabitants, most of whom were affiliated in some way with the local Granite quarries. The town included five churches, two private schools, two public schools, three general stores, a tavern, and a meeting hall. The town of Granite is now an historic district.

Built circa 1800, this Federal-style dwelling fronts east at the end of a long gravel driveway. This two-story-high dwelling spans four bays wide with a side gable, asphalt shingle roof. The masonry dwelling was constructed with coursed ashlar stone on the façade and random ashlar stone on the side and rear elevations. Piercing the façade are seven 6/6 windows with molded wood surrounds, stone sills, and stone lintels. Located on the north end of the façade is the single-leaf entry with a wood paneled door, three-light transom, and molded wood surrounds. A two-story ell projects to the west creating an L-shape footprint for the original house. An interior-end ashlar stone chimney rises from each gable end. A two-story, three-bay-wide porch with square posts projects from the façade and the bend of the L-shaped building. Projecting from the north is a one-story wood frame addition with weatherboard siding and an exterior-end shouldered chimney. Contemporary with the main dwelling is a random rubble stone icehouse to the east. The entry has a single-leaf vertical board door with square-edged wood surrounds. The roof, which has been replaced, is made of concrete. Located south of the dwelling is a circa 1980 wood frame shed.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0013

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Caleb Owings House (preferred)

other O.B. Smith House

2. Location

street and number 2851 Hernwood Road not for publication

city, town Woodstock vicinity

county Baltimore County

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Patrick F. and Susan L. Watson

street and number 2851 Hernwood Road telephone Not Available

city, town Woodstock state MD zip code N/A

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 6794 folio 69

city, town Towson tax map 76 tax parcel 9 tax ID number 1900011913

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0013

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Built circa 1800, this Federal-style dwelling fronts east at the end of a long gravel driveway. This two-story-high dwelling spans four bays wide with a side gable, asphalt shingle roof. The masonry dwelling was constructed with coursed ashlar stone on the façade and random ashlar stone on the side and rear elevations. Piercing the façade are seven 6/6 windows with molded wood surrounds, stone sills, and stone lintels. Located on the north end of the façade is the single-leaf entry with a wood paneled door, three-light transom, and molded wood surrounds. A two-story ell projects to the west creating an L-shape footprint for the original house. An interior-end ashlar stone chimney rises from each gable end. A two-story, three-bay-wide porch with square posts projects from the façade and the bend of the L-shaped building. Projecting from the north is a one-story wood frame addition with weatherboard siding and an exterior-end shouldered chimney.

Contemporary with the main dwelling is a random rubble stone icehouse to the east. The entry has a single-leaf vertical board door with square-edged wood surrounds. The roof, which has been replaced, is made of concrete.

Located south of the dwelling is a circa 1980 wood frame shed that stands one-and-a-half stories tall. Clad with vertical board siding, the building has a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles.

8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0013

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1800 ca.-present **Architect/Builder** Unknown

Construction dates 1800 ca.

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Caleb Owings House is a Federal style dwelling constructed circa 1800 that dates to an early 19th century period of settlement in the vicinity of the Sixth District village of Granite. The village of Granite was established in the early 19th century around a land, by 1850 had developed significantly at the intersection of Granite Road and Old Court Road. The community grew out of the quarrying interests of the Worthington family, which owned a significant amount of land in the surrounding area. In 1877, Granite Post Office was accessible by a branch that extended northward from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad line as it passed near the village. By the late 19th century the thriving community had reached a population of 500 inhabitants, most of whom were affiliated in some way with the local Granite quarries. The town included five churches, two private schools, two public schools, three general stores, a tavern, and a meeting hall.¹ The town of Granite is now an historic district.

Signifying the new role that the country had taken following the Revolutionary War, the Federal style of architecture followed dominated American architecture from 1790 to 1830 as an updated architectural style for the new republic. High-style Federal buildings are decorated with carved swags and classical motifs on the exterior as well as the interior. Reflective of vernacular interpretations, particularly as seen in masonry examples, are the side gable roof, the centered entry capped by a transom with tracery, and the symmetrically placed window openings with flat lintels and double-hung sash windows. The architecture of the Caleb Owings House is less ornate, suggesting a more modest interpretation of the popular style.²

¹ Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), pp. 209-210; see also J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA) p. 830.

² Rachel Carley, *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture* (New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company, 1994), p. 91.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0013

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.
Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	4.79 Acres	
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown	
Quadrangle name	Ellicott City	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1800, the Caleb Owings House has been associated with the 4.79 acres of land known as tax parcel 9 of map 76 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	May 29, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

USGS Quad: Ellicott City
Scale: 1:24,000

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A detailed topographic map of the area around Eldersburg, Maryland. The map features contour lines indicating elevation, with labels such as 300, 400, 500, and 600 feet. Major roads are shown as solid lines, and a pipeline is marked with a dashed line. Key landmarks include the 'Hennwood' area, 'Sylvan Dell', 'Granite', and 'Cherry Hill'. The map also shows 'Mardin Branch' and 'Brice Branch'. A scale bar at the top left indicates a distance of 339,000 meters. The map is oriented with North at the top.

BA 0012
3519 CABOT ROAD
RANDALLSTOWN
Baltimore County

ELDERSBURG 7.7 h
HARRISONVILLE 1.1 A

3A-0011
JOSHUA F. L. WORTHINGTON HOUSE
3517 GRANITE ROAD
WOODSTOCK, BALTIMORE 43590000.N.
COUNTY

BA 0010
2620 OFFUTT ROAD
WOODSTOCK
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0009
MT. WELCOME RETREAT-
3144 GRANITE ROAD

BA-0013
2851 HERNWOOD ROAD
WOODSTOCK
BALTIMORE COUNTY



BA-0013

2851 HERWOOD ROAD

GLANTF

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILER

4/2001

MD-5400

NE CORNER

1 of 3



BA0013

2851 HERNWOOD ROAD

GRANITE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES 4/2001

MD-SHPD

SW CORNER

2 of 3



BA-0013

2851 HERWOOD ROAD

GRANITE

BALTIMORE COUNTY MD

TRACERIES 4/2001

MD-SHPD

ICE HOUSE

BA-13
O.B. Smith House
2851 Hernwood Road
Granite

early 1800s

Built on land originally owned by Nicholas Owings, this vernacular-style granite house was probably built by Owings from locally-quarried stone. It has thick walls, a gable roof, and white pillars. The house also has a huge kitchen fireplace. It was screened from the road by shrubbery in 1978. The house has changed hands frequently. It was reported as having been remodeled in the 1965 survey notes. In 1983 a subdivision plan was filed under the name of Peddicord's Banter, an old tract name. The owner is listed as Oscar B. Smith.

0360135304

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN _____ VICINITY Dist. II STREET NO. Hernwood Road ORIGINAL OWNER _____ ORIGINAL USE _____ PRESENT OWNER _____ PRESENT USE _____ WALL CONSTRUCTION _____ NO. OF STORIES _____		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-13 2. NAME O. B. Smith House DATE OR PERIOD early 1800's STYLE _____ ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION <p style="text-align: center;"> Land originally owned by Nicholas Owings. Granite stone house, probably built by him from nearby quarries. Thick walls, huge kitchen fireplace. Changed hands often, and remodeled. </p>		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE OPEN TO PUBLIC	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)			
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		7. PHOTOGRAPH 9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER (First HABS Report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATE OF RECORD July 29, 1965	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE